
FISCAL UPDATE Article

Fiscal Services Division

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Des Moines, Iowa 50319

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END OF SESSION — HF 2235 — STATEWIDE STUDENT ASSESSMENTS

Description. [House File 2235](#) requires the Department of Education to adopt administrative rules setting the statewide assessment for students as the assessment created by the Iowa Testing Program and administered by the Iowa Testing Program's designee. The Iowa Testing Program is housed in the University of Iowa's College of Education and is commonly known as the Iowa Assessment. The Act sets out the requirements for the statewide assessment, including:

- Grade and content areas assessed.
- Alignment to the Iowa Core Academic Standards.
- Peer review by a third-party evaluator to ensure alignment.
- Availability of both online and paper/pencil versions of the assessment.
- Providing measures of student growth and proficiency.
- Meeting summative assessment requirements of the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

Fiscal Impact. The University of Iowa is currently in the process of completing a request for proposal (RFP) for a vendor partner and does not yet have a final bid for the total cost of the assessment. Based on the data made available from the RFP as required by [SF 240](#) (FY 2017 Statewide Assessment Act), the Iowa Assessment proposal with NCS Pearson was estimated to cost \$4.4 million per year.

The General Assembly appropriated \$2.7 million in [SF 2415](#) (FY 2019 Education Appropriations Act) to the Department of Education to be distributed to the Iowa Testing Program for the purpose of the statewide assessment. The appropriations Act has not yet been approved by the Governor.

The remainder of the cost of the student statewide assessment will be paid for by school districts out of the school districts' general funds.

Enactment Date. The Act was approved by the General Assembly on March 21, 2018, and signed by the Governor on March 28, 2018, and was effective upon enactment.

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